

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A cutting head for a brush cutter or edge trimmer, the cutting head comprising a plurality of string outlets for a plurality of cutting strings, characterized in that the axes of the cutting string outlets are distributed in at least two a plurality of mutually spaced planes (Pac, Pcb),

in that in each plane the respective string outlets are at the same level, and in that in all planes the direction of rotation of the head is the same.

2. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that the at least two adjacent planes (Pac, Pcb) are mutually spaced by a distance (H2) that is between approximately 1.8 times the height (H1) of each string and approximately 5 times the height (H1) of each string.

3. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings exiting in a first plane (Pac) are alternated with the strings exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first.

4. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 3, characterized in that in the peripheral direction of the head, the strings exit the head in a regularly distributed manner.

5. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 4, characterized in that two strings are provided exiting in a first plane (Pac) in diametrically opposed regions, and two strings are provided exiting in a second plane (Pcb) adjacent to the first, in diametrically

opposed regions, also, and in that the string outlets are being distributed approximately every 90° in the peripheral direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein each string has a ridge, and in that wherein the head comprises means for maintaining each string in an orientation such that the a cutting ridge of the string is in a position to lead the attack on plants.

7. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 6, characterized in that wherein each string has a substantially square section and is oriented with two opposite ridges situated substantially in the plane (Pac[[:]], Pcb) containing the axis of the corresponding string outlet.

8. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 1, characterized in that wherein the head is implemented by assembling parts of general disc shape defining string semi-channels opposite one another and suitable for together forming string channels concealed in the head.

9. (Currently Amended) A cutting head according to Claim 8, characterized in that wherein the spacing (H2) between the adjacent planes (Pac, Pcb) of the string outlets is defined by the thickness of an intermediate part comprising on one face semi-channels for the strings of an upper plane and on an opposite face semi-channels for the strings of a lower plane.

10–12. (Canceled)